

## Lord Vaniford's Wife

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#### AFS 1005 B1

The first that came in was a scarlet red, the second a violet blue, The third that came in was Lord Vaniford's wife, who spied the young McGrue. "How can you play with cards young man, how can you play with dice? Oh come and [drive (?)] with me this eve, for my Lord has gone from home."

"To [drive (?)] with you, I dare not do; I dare not for my life, For I know by the ring that you wear on your finger, you are Lord Vanifor's wife." "What if I am Lord Vanifor's wife, the Lord has gone from home, He has gone to seek for Henry, King George is on his throne."

One of Lord Vaniford's servant men, who overheard it all, He ran till he came to the riverside, and leaped in and swam, He swam till he came to the other side, and leaped out and ran, He ran till he came to King George's gate; he rattled he rattled and rang.

"None of your rattling or none of your ringing, nor none of your casting down, For McGure is dining with Lord Vaniford's wife in a fair Scottish town." "Rise up, rise up my servants men, and go along with me, We must go see this fair couple, this happy couple to see."

"If this be a lie my servant" said he "as I suppose it to be, I'll have a gallows fixed for you, and hanged you shall be." "If this be a lie, my Lord" said he, "as you suppose it to be, You need not fix a gallows for me, but hang me on a tree."

"If this be true, my servant," said he, "as you are telling me, I'll make you rise with all my land, and all my liberty," One of Lord Vaniford's servants, then, who showed McGrue no ill, He picked up a bugle and blew both loud and shrill.

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"Oh hark, Oh hark, my lad," said he, "the cocks are crowing for day, And he is feasting with another man's wife, let him be getting away." "Oh no, Oh no, my dear," said she, "the cocks are not crowing for day, It's only my father's shepard boys, a driving his sheep away."

Then they dined and wined again, till at last they both fell asleep, And before they had time to rise again, Lord Vaniford stood at their feet, "Oh how do you like my wine," said he "and everything nice and nice? And how do you like my fair lady that lies in your arms asleep?"

"Very much, I like it all, also your wine so sweet, But the fairest of all this whole wide world, now lies in my arms asleep." "Now rise, rise, rise, young man" said he, "and do the best you can, For I would not have it said in fair Scotland, that I kill you a defenseless man."

"Rise, rise to you I dare not do, I dare not for my life, For you have two swords by your side, and I have ne'er a knife." "If I have two swords by my side, they cost me deep in my purse, But you shall have the very best one, and I shall have the worst."

"And you shall strike the very first blow, but strike it like a man, And I shall strike the very next blow, and I'll kill you if I can." McGrue, he struck the very first blow, and wounded Lord Vaniford sore, Lord Vaniford struck the very next blow, and McGrue could strike no more.

"Rise, rise, rise, rise, my lady," said he, "and fall upon your knees. Then tell to me who you love best, this young McGrue or me?" "If Lord Vaniford laid at my feet, all bleeding in his gore, I could not shed one tear for him, oh no, oh no, not one!"

Then he took her around the waist so small, and kisses gave her three, And in his right hand held a sword and pierced her fair body. "Come, all my servants men," said he, "who here are standing around, Who saw me in such angry blood and could not stop my wound."

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“There, now I've killed that fair young man, that Scotland could afford, Likewise the fairest lady that e'er the sun shone on. And soon you see there will be three, for fatal is my wound.”

*[Note: recording abruptly ends.]*